CONSIDERATIONS FOR FABRICATORS

AEOS: HIGH STRENGTH STEEL

March 24, 2022





Designation: A913/A913M - 07

Standard Specification for High-Strength Low-Alloy Steel Shapes of Structural Quality, Produced by Quenching and Self-Tempering Process (QST)¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation A913/A913M; the number immediately following the designation indicates the year of original adoption or, in the case of revision, the year of last revision. A number in parentheses indicates the year of last reapproval. A superscript epsilon (e) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

1. Scope*

1.1 This specification covers high-strength low-alloy structural steel shapes in Grades 50 [345], 60 [415], 65 [450] and 70 [485], produced by the quenching and self-tempering process $(QST)_{-}^{2}$ The shapes are intended for riveted, bolted or welded construction of bridges, buildings and other structures.

1.2 The QST process consists of in line heat treatment and cooling rate controls which result in mechanical properties in the finished condition that are equivalent to those attained using heat treating processes which entail reheating after rolling. A description of the QST process is given in Appendix X1.

1.3 Due to the inherent characteristics of the QST process, the shapes shall not be formed and post weld heat treated at temperatures exceeding 1100°F [600°C].

1.4 When the steel is to be welded, it is presupposed that a welding procedure suitable for the grade of steel and intended use or service will be utilized. See Appendix X3 of Specification A6/A6M for information on weldability.

1.5 The values stated in either inch-pound units or SI units are to be regarded separately as standard. Within the text, the SI units are shown in brackets. The values stated in each system are not exact equivalents; therefore, each system must be used independently of the other. Combining values from the two systems may result in nonconformance with this specification.

¹ This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee A01 on Steel, Stainless Steel and Related Alloys and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee A01.02 on Structural Steel for Bridges, Buildings, Rolling Stock and Ships. Current edition approved Nov. 1, 2007. Published November 2007. Originally approved in 1993. Last previous edition approved in 2004 as A913/A913M – 04. DOI: 10.1520/A0913_A0913M-07.

³ The quenching and self-tempering process (QST) and the used apparatus are covered by patients held by the Centre de Recherches Mediallegipaes (CRM) – Reue Ernest Solvay, 11, B4000, Liège (Belgium), Interested parties are invited to submit information regarding the identification of acceptable alternatives in these patiented items to the Committee on Standards, ASTM Headquarters, 100 Barr Habro Drive, West Conshohocken, PA 19428–2059, Comments will receive careful consideration at the meeting of the responsible technical committee, which any interested party of the responsible technical committee, which any interested party.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:³ Ao/AoM Specification for General Requirements for Rolled Structural Steel Bars, Plates, Shapes, and Sheet Piling A673/A673M Specification for Sampling Procedure for Impact Testing of Structural Steel A898/A898M Specification for Straight Beam Ultrasonic

Examination of Rolled Steel Structural Shapes

3. General Requirements for Delivery

3.1 Material furnished under this specification shall conform to the applicable requirements of the current edition of Specification A6/A6M.

4. Materials and Manufacture

4.1 The shapes shall be produced by the quenching and self-tempering process (QST). Self-tempering temperature shall be a minimum of 1100°F [600°C] and the self-tempering temperature for the material represented shall be reported on the mill test report. See Appendix X1 for Process Description. 4.2 For grades 60 [415], 65 [450], and 70 [485], the

requirements for fine austenitic grain size in Specification A6/A6M shall be met.

5. Chemical Composition

5.1 The chemical analysis of the heat shall conform to the requirements prescribed in Table 1.
5.2 The steel shall conform on product analysis to the

requirements prescribed in Table 1 subject to the product analysis tolerances in Specification A6/A6M.

6. Mechanical Properties

6.1 Tensile Properties—The material as represented by the test specimens shall conform to the tensile properties given in Table 2.

³ For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, www.astm.org, s

contact ASTM Customer Service at service@astm.org. For Annual Book of ASTM Standards volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM architecture.





AEOS MANUFACTURING PROCESS

After Hot Rolling, the steel goes through quenching and selftempering (QST). This is different than Q&T Steel production.



NUCOR

AEOS QUENCH AND SELF-TEMPER

The Two Distinct Microstructures



Tempered Martensite at surface



Ferrite & Pearlite (similar to A992) at center

NUCOR®

AEOS EXAMPLE MTR



Low CE and Pcm is maintained through more restrictive chemistry

Note that the STT is unique to AEOS

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BENEFITS OF AEOS FABRICATION

Pre-Qualified in AWS D1.1: 2020 Clause 5 Table 5.3 Approved Base Metal Group III Table 5.4 Filler Metal for Matching Strength – Example E8018-XX AEOS Grade 65 Table 5.9 Prequalified Preheat and Interpass Temperature – Category D w/ Low Hydrogen electrode

Fabricator can develop Welding Procedure Specification without cost of Performance Qualification Report (Qualifying by Testing)



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BENEFITS OF AEOS FABRICATION

REDUCED PREHEAT REQUIREMENTS

Reduction of preheat requirement can save hours for preparing welds both in the fabrication shop and in the field

Applicable when base metal temperature is above 32°F and H8 electrodes are used

The heat input limitations of AWS D1.1 Clause 7.7 do not apply to AEOS QST W Shapes.

Comparison of Aeos to A992			
Measure	Aeos 50	Aeos 65	A992
Yield strength, ksi	50	65	50
Tensile strength, ksi	65	80	65
Max. yield strength, ksi	65	No Max.	65
Max. yield-to-tensile ratio	0.85	No Max.	0.85
Min. CVN: 40 ft-lbf @ 70° F*	Yes	Yes	No
Min. elongation (8" sample)	18%	15%	18%
Max. carbon	0.38	0.43	0.47/0.45**
Weldable without preheat	Yes	Yes	No

"Supplement S30 may be requested on the purchase order for Charpy V-notch testing at the alternate core location for shapes with a flange thickness greater than 11/2". CVN impact tests shall be performed according to ASTM A673 to a minimum average absorbed energy for each test of 20 ft-lbf at 70° F unless noted otherwise on the purchase order.

** 0.47% for section with flange thickness greater than 2" (50 mm), 0.45% for all other shapes.



BENEFITS OF AEOS FABRICATION

Preheat Validation

AWS D1.1 Annex B Guideline for Alternative

Methods for Determination of Preheat - Figure

B.1 Zone Classification of Steels

With AEOS Grade 65 being in Zone I -

Cracking is unlikely unless high hydrogen or high restraint exist

Table B.1 and B.2 can provide assistance in determining minimum preheat.

Chemistry specification is more restrictive for AEOS than A992.



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OTHER AEOS FABRICATION CONSIDERATIONS

- Saw cutting costs are comparable to A992
- Drilling costs consistent with A992, may need more oil to initiate drilling
- Punching not assessed, not typically used with higher strength steel grades
- Torch cutting costs are consistent with A992
- Heat Straightening & Post Weld Heat Treated have a maximum temperature of 1100°F

The appropriate UT specification for W Shapes is ASTM A898. Two levels of acceptance are available and the appropriate level must be designated in the contract documents.



Photo Credit: NASA/Kim Shiflett



AEOS WELDABILITY SUMMARY:

"Your AEOS Steel Welds like Butter"

- St. Louis Fabricator
- AEOS QST is not the same as Q&T
- Prequalified in AWS D1.1
- Lower Preheat than A992
- Uses a higher strength electrode
- Processing costs comparable to A992
- Heat Straightening & PWHT limited to 1100°F



THANK YOU

NUCOR CONSTRUCTION SOLUTIONS

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